Smart Sensors Gather Information for Machine Diagnostics



Stennis Space Center

Lion Precision St. Paul, Minnesota

NASA Technology

- Equipment failures at the E-Complex, home to three propulsion test stands at Stennis Space Center, are expensive
- To avert equipment failures and save thousands of dollars, Stennis considered smart sensors, which could report problems on the test stands

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Partnership

- Lion Precision partnered with Stennis through a Cooperative Agreement to develop a smart sensor
- As part of the agreement, the measurements were transmitted using MTConnect, a standard to integrate devices through a common interface
- Lion Precision produced sensors for the test stand and the partnership was the first implementation of the sensor protocols of MTConnect

Benefits

- The same sensor is commercially available, and Lion Precision is incorporating the diagnostic capabilities into its next generation of sensors
- The company has used its NASA experience to create a battery-powered wireless device
- Future applications include the manufacturing or machining of metal parts